

Music development plan summary: [Aylestone School]

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Ross Leighton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Simon Robertson
Name of local music hub	Encore
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

At Aylestone, all students attend one 1-hour music lesson per week throughout Key Stage 3 (KS3). In KS4, students who opt for BTEC Music have 5 hours of lessons over the 2 week timetable.

The Aylestone music department aspires to develop musically confident and creative pupils, who develop a love and interest for music across a range of genres and styles in a way that helps to build confidence and musicianship. We strive to motivate, inspire and engage young musicians through a wide range of musical contexts to develop performance, composition, listening and singing skills whilst nurturing their creativity. Our curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum. We provide the opportunities to enrich pupils' lives and prepare them for their next stage of education and a future career within the music industry.

This is achieved by continuing to deliver and develop schemes of work which are accessible and stimulating for all pupils through a variety of genres, styles and musical contexts such as; elements of music, Blues and film Music. Progression should be evident as pupils move through key stage 3 and as they tackle more complex and demanding concepts and practices if they choose to follow the BTEC music pathway. At Aylestone, KS4 students follow the Pearson BTEC Tech Award Level 1/2 in Music Practice. Further information regarding this can be found on our website.

Pupils will focus on the four key strands of music education which include listening, composing, performing and singing as they explore new and exciting musical pathways. They will be encouraged to show strong musicianship skills by working as an ensemble, maintain good relationships with their peers and having a positive attitude towards practice and performance.

In the music classroom, students have access to a wide range of musical instruments and musical realisation techniques. There is a keyboard at every workstation with a pair of headphones for each student. This allows students to experience a more practical “learning by doing” approach to music.

Aylestone school is a member of the Encore Enterprises Music Service in Hereford. This allows us access to a roster of private music teachers, and news regarding outside events and opportunities such as Livewire and Encore Youth Music.

We have positive links to the nearby colleges; and taster sessions, live performances, and workshops by the college students have been very well received by our students.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

At Aylestone, we pride ourselves on providing a broad and creative extra-curricular music offer to our students. There are clubs held almost every day after school to allow students to experience a side of music and music creation that isn't possible in the classroom. Every year at Aylestone, we offer the opportunity to be part of a large scale project which is accessible to all. Our most recent project was a performance of the Broadway edition of School of Rock. This was a great success and the students involved thoroughly enjoyed being part of it. Local schools were invited to watch the performance, such as Broadlands Primary School, Barrs Court School and Hampton Dene Primary School.

Instrumental tuition teachers are provided through Encore, and we currently offer guitar/bass, piano/keyboard, drums, saxophone, clarinet, singing, and trumpet.

However, upon request we are able to arrange for a teacher for any available instrument that Encore offers.

After school clubs vary throughout the year to allow for a wider range of opportunities based on the time of year. Throughout the year we offer the following clubs:

- Music Club
- Rock Band Practice Club
- Choir/Ensemble Club (Autumn Term)
- Musical Rehearsal (Autumn Term + Spring Term)

New clubs are always being proposed and we are always striving to fulfil the requests of students and allow them to experiment with new and exciting avenues within music. All extra-curricular clubs are free to join.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

As mentioned previously, we offer a wide range of experiences for the students at Aylestone. This year, the students have performed in the school musical in front of hundreds of students and adults, and our school rock band have performed at Hampton Dene Primary school. Students have performed at every open evening and information evening, as well as in a number of assemblies. Our instrument tuition teachers have also performed in front of the students in assemblies, and performed alongside some of the students to showcase what they have been learning. Our BTEC students have had performances from students from Hereford College of Arts, and have engaged in workshops at the college in which they developed their performance skills by performing in front of the KS5 students and getting some very valuable feedback.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

Aylestone school is currently in the early stages of expansion. This is a very exciting time for students at our school and music will be benefiting from the expansion. In the near future, we hope to broaden our offered opportunities and allow an even more varied range of extra-curricular experiences such as a music technology club, and more student performances inside and outside of school. We want to allow more whole-class instrumental tuition to provide our students with as many new opportunities as possible. This would be made possible by hiring a full class set of instruments such

as ukuleles or guitars from Encore Enterprises. We also are planning to host performances on a larger scale, which would include outdoor performances to allow students to develop confidence and to give them a small taste of what life is like as a performing musician outside of school. We also hope to strengthen our links with other schools in the area by organising workshops and performances for them alongside Encore.

Further information (optional)

<https://www.encore-enterprises.com/>

<https://www.encore-enterprises.com/livewirehomepage>

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/>